

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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GENEVA FOR WISNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: AFRICA IN THE U.S. PRESS, DECEMBER 8, 1976

1. WASHINGTON POST:

-- OBSERVERS IN SALISBURY ANTICIPATE A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN SMITH AND RICHARD OVER A ROLE FOR WHITES AND THE CONTINUED DELAY IN DISCUSSING THE SIX-POINT KISSINGER PLAN. ROBIN WRIGHT REPORTS FROM SALISBURY THAT SMITH LEFT YESTERDAY FOR GENEVA IN A LAST-DITCH ATTEMPT TO SAVE THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, CANADIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, DONALD JAMIESON SAID IN LONDON THAT THE COMMONWEALTH SHOULD PROVIDE EXPERTS TO SUPERVISE LAW, ORDER AND DEFENSE UNDER A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN RHODESIA AND CANADA WAS PREPARED TO TAKE PART.

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-- IN A LETTER WRITTEN IN SEPTEMBER, SAVIMBI SAYS THAT TWO TOP UNITA LEADERS WERE KILLED IN A BATTLE AGAINST MPLA-CUBAN FORCES LAST SUMMER. HE SAYS THAT THE BENGUELA RAIL LINE WILL REMAIN CUT UNTIL UNITA WINS ITS GUERRILLA STRUGGLE. THE LETTER CHARGES THAT MORE THAN A THOUSAND CUBAN FAMILIES HAVE ARRIVED IN ANGOLA AS SETTLERS.

-- RUETERS REPORTS THAT THE U.S. HAS DONATED \$75,000 TOWARD

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF AIDING DROUGHT-STRICKEN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

-- THE POST CARRIES AN OBITUARY ON PHILIP HELLER, A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICER WHO SERVED IN GUINEA, KENYA AND ON SEVERAL NATIONAL COMMISSIONS ON AFRICA.

2. NEW YORK TIMES:

-- THE TIMES CARRIES THE FULL TEXT OF SAVIMBI'S "OPEN LETTER TO THE FREE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD". THE LETTER, WHICH IS DATED SEPT. 25 IS A STATEMENT OF SAVIMBI'S DETERMINATION TO REMAIN AFRICAN "WHATEVER THE ODDS AGAINST OUR TEMPORARY WEAKNESSES."

-- IN AN EDITORIAL, THE TIMES COMMENTS THAT THE WRECKING OF KENYA'S WILDLIFE PRESERVES WOULD BE A BITTER LOSS BOTH TO KENYA IN TERMS OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND TO "A WORLD IN WHICH MAN IS SO RAPIDLY CLOSING IN ON THE REST OF NATURE THAT HE FAILS TO SEE THE POTENTIALLY TERRIBLE CONSEQUENCES TO HIMSELF."

-- KATHLEEN TELTSCH INTERVIEWED FORMER SOWETO STUDENT TSIETSI MASHININI, WHO HELPED DIRECT LAST JUNE'S UPRISING IN THE TOWNSHIP. MR. MASHININI SAID THAT HE EXPECTED RACIAL CONFLICT TO ERUPT IN SOUTH AFRICA WITHIN FIVE YEARS. IN JOHANNESBURG, SENATOR CLARK SPENT TWO HOURS DISCUSSING FUTURE U.S. POLICY WITH A GROUP OF 30 STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS IN SOWETO.

-- JOHN BURNS REPORTED FROM JOHANNESBURG ON THE BOMBING
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OF A POPULAR DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT. THE INCIDENT MAY BE THE FIRST SERIOUS ATTEMPT AT URBAN GUERRILLA TACTICS SINCE DISTURBANCES BEGAN SIX MONTHS AGO.

-- REUTERS REPORTS THAT CUBA AND ANGOLA HAVE SIGNED A NEW SERIES OF AGREEMENTS SPECIFYING TASKS TO BE PERFORMED BY CUBAN CIVILIANS IN ANGOLA.

-- AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE QUOTES BOTSWANAS' INFORMATION
DIRECTOR AS SAYING THAT BOTSWANA WILL NOT HARBOR NATIONAL-
IST GUERRILLAS OPERATING AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA OR RHODESIA
DESPITE PRESSURES TO DO SO.

-- BANK OF AMERICA ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD SOLD 60
OF ITS WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY, BANK OF AMERICA NIGERIA,
LTD. TO NIGERIAN INVESTORS.

3. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

-- JUNE GOODWIN REPORTS FROM DAR ES SALAAM ON THE
TENSIONS BUILDING UP IN NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.
AFRICAN NATIONALIST POINT OUT THAT KISSINGER'S ATTEMPT
TO CONVENE A SECOND AFRICAN CONFERENCE IN GENEVA ON THE
TRANSITION OF POWER IN NAMIBIA FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN
GOVERNMENT TO BLACKS IS STALLED.

-- THE MONITOR ALSO REPORTS ON THE CUBA-ANGOLA AID
AGREEMENTS. ROBINSON

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